

of treating physicians, as well as published peer reviewed data, that shall include recommendations for addressing research gaps in diagnosis and treatment of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases and an evaluation of treatment guidelines and their utilization;

(3) progress in the development of accurate diagnostic tools that are more useful in the clinical setting for both acute and chronic disease; and

(4) the promotion of public awareness and physician education initiatives to improve the knowledge of health care providers and the public regarding clinical and surveillance practices for Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 207—RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. REID, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SMITH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. REED, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BURR, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. COLEMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

##### S. RES. 207

Whereas July 26, 2005, marks the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

Whereas prior to the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, it was commonplace for individuals with disabilities to experience discrimination in all aspects of their everyday lives—in employment, housing, public accommodations, education, transportation, communication, recreation, voting, and access to public services;

Whereas prior to the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities often were the subject of stereotypes and prejudices that did not reflect their abilities, talents, and eagerness to fully contribute to our society and economy;

Whereas the dedicated efforts of disability rights advocates, such as Justin Dart, Jr. and others too numerous to mention, served to awaken Congress and the American people to the discrimination and prejudice faced by individuals with disabilities;

Whereas Congress worked in a bipartisan manner to craft legislation making such discrimination illegal and opening doors of opportunity to individuals with disabilities;

Whereas Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act and President George Herbert Walker Bush signed the Act into law on July 26, 1990;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act pledged to fulfill the Nation's goals of equality of opportunity, economic self-sufficiency, full participation, and independent living for individuals with disabilities;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibited employers from discriminating against qualified individuals with dis-

abilities, required that State and local governmental entities accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities, encouraged places of public accommodation to take reasonable steps to make their goods and services accessible to individuals with disabilities, and required that new trains and buses be accessible;

Whereas since 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act has played an historic role in allowing some 54,000,000 Americans with disabilities to participate more fully in our national life by removing barriers in employment, transportation, public services, telecommunications, and public accommodations;

Whereas accommodations such as curb cuts, ramps, accessible trains and buses, accessible stadiums, accessible telecommunications, and accessible Web sites have become commonplace since passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, benefitting not only individuals with disabilities but all Americans; and

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act is our Nation's landmark civil rights legislation for people with disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and honors the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

(2) salutes all people whose efforts contributed to the enactment of such Act; and

(3) encourages all Americans to celebrate the advance of freedom and the opening of opportunity made possible by the enactment of such Act.

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 208—COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CITIZENS' CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

##### S. RES. 208

Whereas crime prevention improves the quality of life in every community;

Whereas crime prevention is central to maintaining a sound criminal justice system at the national, State, and local level and to ensuring safer and more secure communities;

Whereas 2005 marks the 25th anniversary of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, featuring McGruff the Crime Dog, conducted by the National Crime Prevention Council;

Whereas McGruff the Crime Dog is an icon, recognized as the Nation's symbol for crime prevention;

Whereas the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign has inspired and directed millions of citizens to take action, individually and collectively, to reduce crime, drug abuse, and the fear of crime;

Whereas the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign has led a multitude of community organizations, including law enforcement, other State and local agencies, civic and community groups, faith-based organizations, schools, and businesses, to play a vital role in reducing crime and building safer communities; and

Whereas the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign is a leading example of a campaign conducted by public and private individuals and entities on a national, State, and local level to improve the quality of life throughout the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 25th anniversary of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention

Campaign, and commends all individuals and organizations involved in the campaign for advancing the principles and practice of effective crime prevention;

(2) asks the people of the United States to join in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, and of the campaign's icon (McGruff the Crime Dog), and of the campaign's managing organization (National Crime Prevention Council); and

(3) encourages the National Crime Prevention Council and the Crime Prevention Coalition of America to continue to promote, through the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, individual and collective action, in collaboration with law enforcement and other supporting agencies, to reduce crime and build safer communities throughout the United States.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I seek recognition today to submit a Senate Resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign. This effort is being led by the National Crime Prevention Council, NCPC, and its icon, McGruff the Crime Dog.

NCPC is a private, nonprofit educational organization. NCPC is well known by the general public for coordinating the public service advertising efforts featuring McGruff. Yet the National Crime Prevention Council provides comprehensive crime prevention technical assistance and training to communities throughout the United States; develops and implements highly acclaimed and innovative programs; and disseminates information on effective crime prevention practices to thousands of individuals and organizations every year. The council also publishes books, program kits, posters, and consumer education materials that can be localized by crime prevention activists everywhere.

On July 1, 2005, the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign and McGruff the Crime Dog celebrated their 25th anniversary. I, along with Senator LEAHY, acknowledge this significant milestone with a resolution that: 1. Commemorates the 25th anniversary and commends all individuals and organizations involved in the Campaign for advancing the principles and practices of effective crime prevention; 2. Asks all Americans to join in the celebration of the 25th anniversary; and 3. Encourages the efforts of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign to promote individual and collective action, in collaboration with law enforcement and other supporting agencies, to reduce crime and build safer communities throughout the United States of America.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am proud to join my friend and colleague, Senator SPECTER, in submitting this bipartisan resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, which is managed by the National Crime Prevention Council. I applaud all individuals and organizations involved in the Campaign for their efforts to advance the principles and practice of effective crime prevention throughout the United States.

We have all been urged over the years by McGruff the Crime Dog, the Campaign's icon, to "Take A Bite Out Of Crime" a simple and effective slogan to help begin to educate and make the public aware of the importance of crime prevention. Through their leadership, the Campaign and McGruff have played vital roles in reducing crime and making our communities safer.

The Campaign was the first public education program on crime prevention in the country. It is designed to stimulate community involvement, generate confidence in comprehensive crime prevention activities and provide a national focus and resource for crime prevention programs nationwide. When it was formally launched in 1979, most Americans viewed crime as inevitable and its prevention as the job of the police. Today, three out of four Americans believe that they can personally take actions to reduce crime and that their neighborhoods and communities can act to prevent crime. A major force behind this shift to a more positive attitude is the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign.

Crime prevention is central to maintaining a sound criminal justice system at the national, State, and local levels, and to ensuring safer and more secure communities. Making prevention a priority through the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign is a collective effort. This alliance of national, State and Federal organizations works with businesses, civic groups, individuals and law enforcement to generate crime prevention awareness and action throughout the country through a variety of mechanisms.

The National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign has inspired and directed millions of citizens to take action, individually and collectively, to reduce crime, drug abuse and the fear of crime. I look forward to another 25 years and beyond of McGruff and the Campaign, under the skilled leadership of its President and CEO, Al Lenhardt, who is the former Sergeant At Arms of the U.S. Senate, continuing to be national leaders in improving the quality of life in every community through crime prevention. I have no doubt that together they will continue to promote individual and collective action, in collaboration with law enforcement and other supporting agencies, to reduce crime and build safer communities throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 209—TO  
STRENGTHEN FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY BY IMPROVING SENATE CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORTS

Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased that Senator MCCAIN is joining me today in submitting a bipartisan

Senate resolution to strengthen fiscal responsibility and restore some common sense to the consideration of conference reports in the Senate.

Last November the Senate received an omnibus appropriations conference report that totaled 3,646 pages. It included nine different appropriations bills, seven of which had never been debated, amended or voted on by the Senate. It spent more than \$388 billion. And it also included a miscellaneous title with several extraneous provisions that had nothing to do with appropriations. Like the appropriations titles, many of these non-appropriations items had never been considered in the Senate.

Even though the vast majority of the Senate had never had a chance to review these provisions, the conference report was rushed to the Senate floor just hours after a handful of members and their staff had finished their work putting it together behind closed doors.

Throughout the day, I and several members of my staff read and analyzed the provisions of this bill. During the examination, we discovered a particularly egregious provision. It would have allowed an agent of the Chairman of the House or Senate Appropriations Committee to look at the tax return of anyone in America. And, further, it would have allowed them to release the private information contained in those returns without any civil or criminal penalty. That would have created the opportunity for an abuse of power almost unprecedented in our history.

Thankfully, my staff and I were able to catch this, and after strenuous debate the provision was nullified. But this is an indication of how completely flawed this process has become. None of us could know when the time came to vote, just a few hours after the bill was released, what other inappropriate provisions it contained. There simply had not been enough time to thoroughly scour the more than 3,600 pages in this bill.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated example. Over the past several years, we have seen increased abuses of the conference process. There has been a trend toward a handful of members writing legislation in secret, without full opportunity for minority participation or thorough debate in the Senate. In addition to the omnibus appropriations bills we have seen in the past several years, there are several other examples of this trend.

Last year, for example, the majority leadership was unwilling or unable to move a bill through the Senate to extend expiring tax provisions. Apparently, the leadership did not want to vote on amendments to pay for these provisions, and it did not want to debate the fiscal irresponsibility of its tax policy.

So what did the leadership do? It took a modest tax relief measure aimed at making the child tax credit more useful to low- and middle-income families that had languished in con-

ference for over a year, and turned it into a \$146 billion revenue loser that extended the 2001 tax cuts relating to the child credit, marriage penalty, and the 10 percent marginal rate bracket through 2010. The conferees also tacked on traditional extenders, R&D, work opportunity tax credit, etc., added a year of AMT relief, and dropped the revenue offsets that had covered all but about \$250 million of the original cost. No Democrats participated in the conference, and the Senate had no opportunity to debate the merits of these individual provisions or offer amendments to offset their costs.

But it is not just tax and appropriations bills that have been hijacked in conference. On issue after issue, we have had conferences where the minority was excluded so that the majority could ram through unpopular provisions as part of an un-amendable conference report.

That is not right. We should not be writing brand new legislation in conference in order to bypass Senate consideration. We should not be bundling together 3,646 page conference reports in the middle of the night and asking Senators to vote on them without the opportunity for thorough review and debate. It is clear to me the conference process is broken. Former President Ronald Reagan in his 1988 State of the Union Address told us we should not do business this way, in omnibus conference reports that no Senator has an opportunity to fully understand before they are voted on. He was right.

The Conrad-McCain resolution would address these problems. It would improve Senate consideration of conference reports in five simple, commonsense ways.

First, our resolution would require conference reports to be filed and made available for at least 48 hours prior to Senate consideration. Under our resolution, all Senators would have the opportunity to know what is in each and every conference report that comes before this body.

Second, our resolution would require a written cost estimate or table by the Congressional Budget Office prior to Senate consideration of any conference report. Senators deserve to know before they vote on a bill how much it will cost.

Third, our resolution would require that a bill coming out of conference be primarily in the jurisdiction of the same committee, or appropriations subcommittee, as the Senate-passed bill that was submitted to conference. We should not be sending a \$19 billion foreign operations appropriations bill to conference and having it come back as a close-to \$400 billion bill that includes Labor-Health and Human Services and other domestic spending. This will help ensure that the Senate considers each bill before it comes back from conference.

If any of those three conditions are not met, our resolution would allow any Senator to raise a point of order